

# **Getting Started, Getting Heard**

*A Guide for New Councillors  
and their Councils*









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# HOT TIP #1

You are the Council



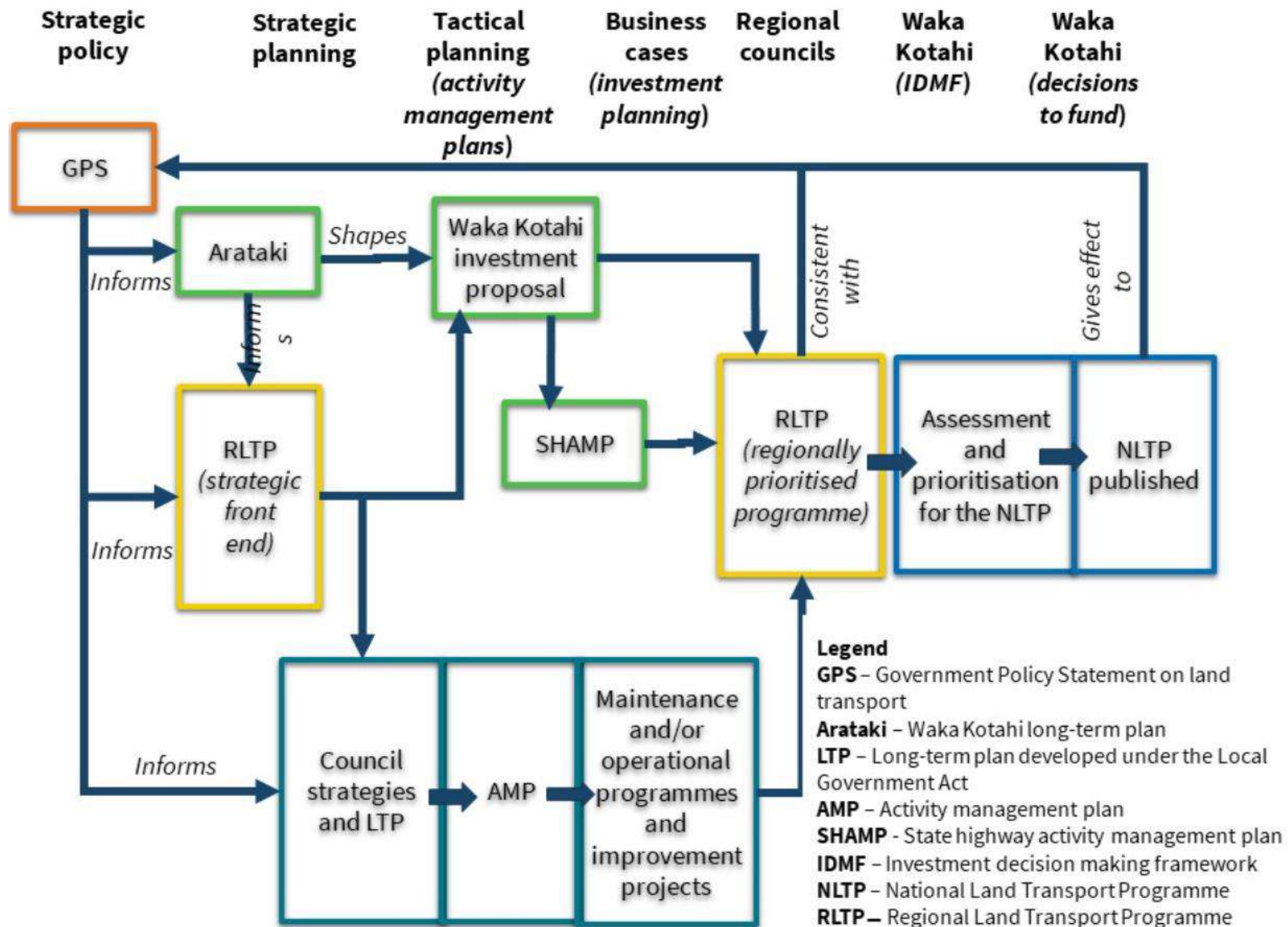
**Culture**  
Confidence  
Clarity  
Cohesion



# HOT TIP #2

Build Relationships – Peace  
and War



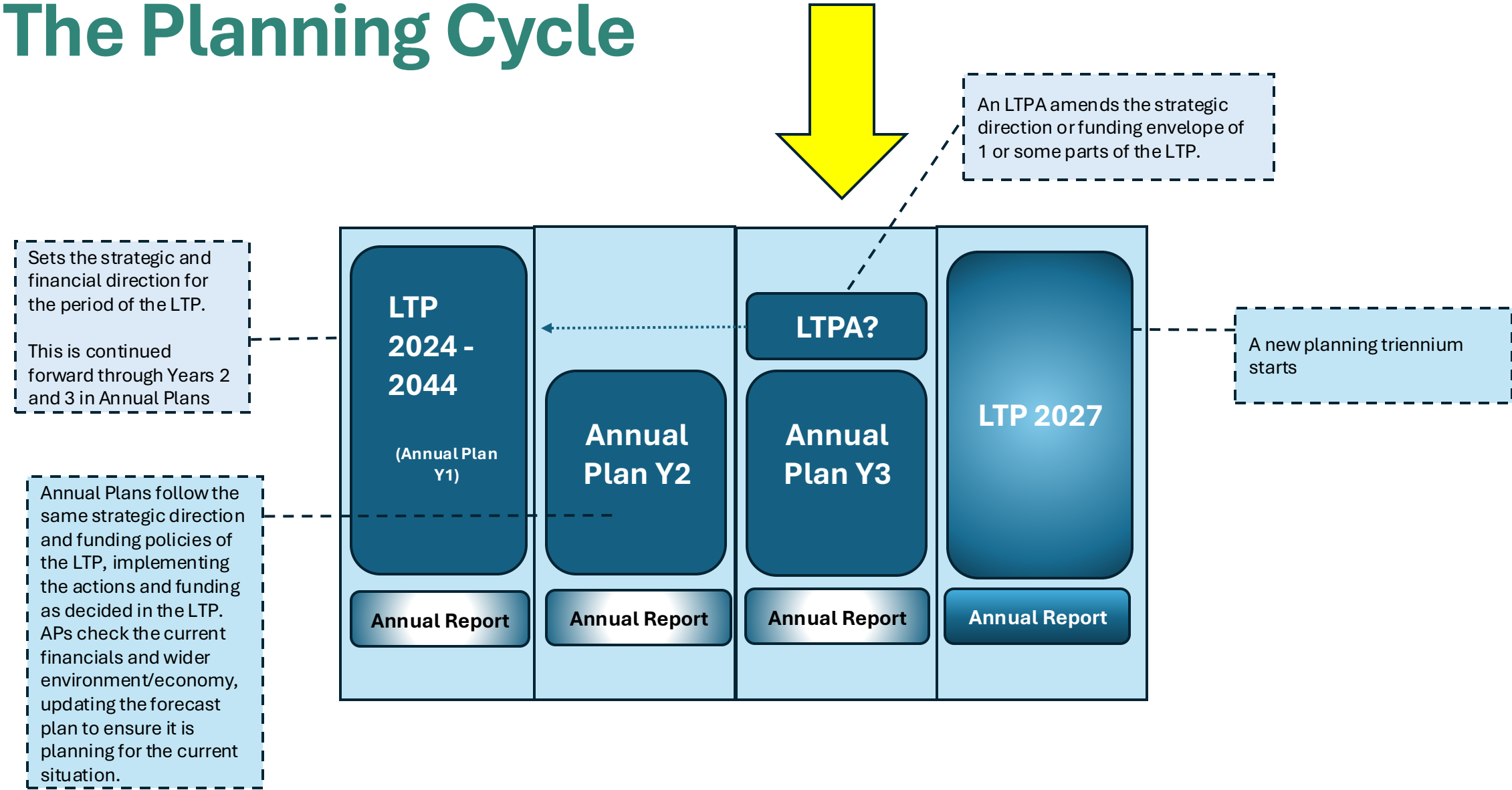


# HOT TIP #3

Learn the Language



# The Planning Cycle



## TRANSPORT PLANNING TIMELINE - CENTRAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT



\*HDC do a 20 year LTP (minimum required is 10 years)

↓ = informs preparation of/implements

### Takeaways

- RLTP (and mid-term review) is be completed prior to GPS and NLTP being finalised, creating risk of misalignment and a 'lag' in catch up – this is important, as alignment between the layers is important for Councils receiving government funding.
- LTPs are prepared and consulted on in advance of GPS and NLTP and alongside RLTP.
- There are lots of 'layers' to transport funding and decision making and long time periods in between reviews (which happen on different timescales), making funding of major projects that are needed in response to real world changes challenging



# HOT TIP #4

Seek out the moments that  
matter



# Giving Clarity

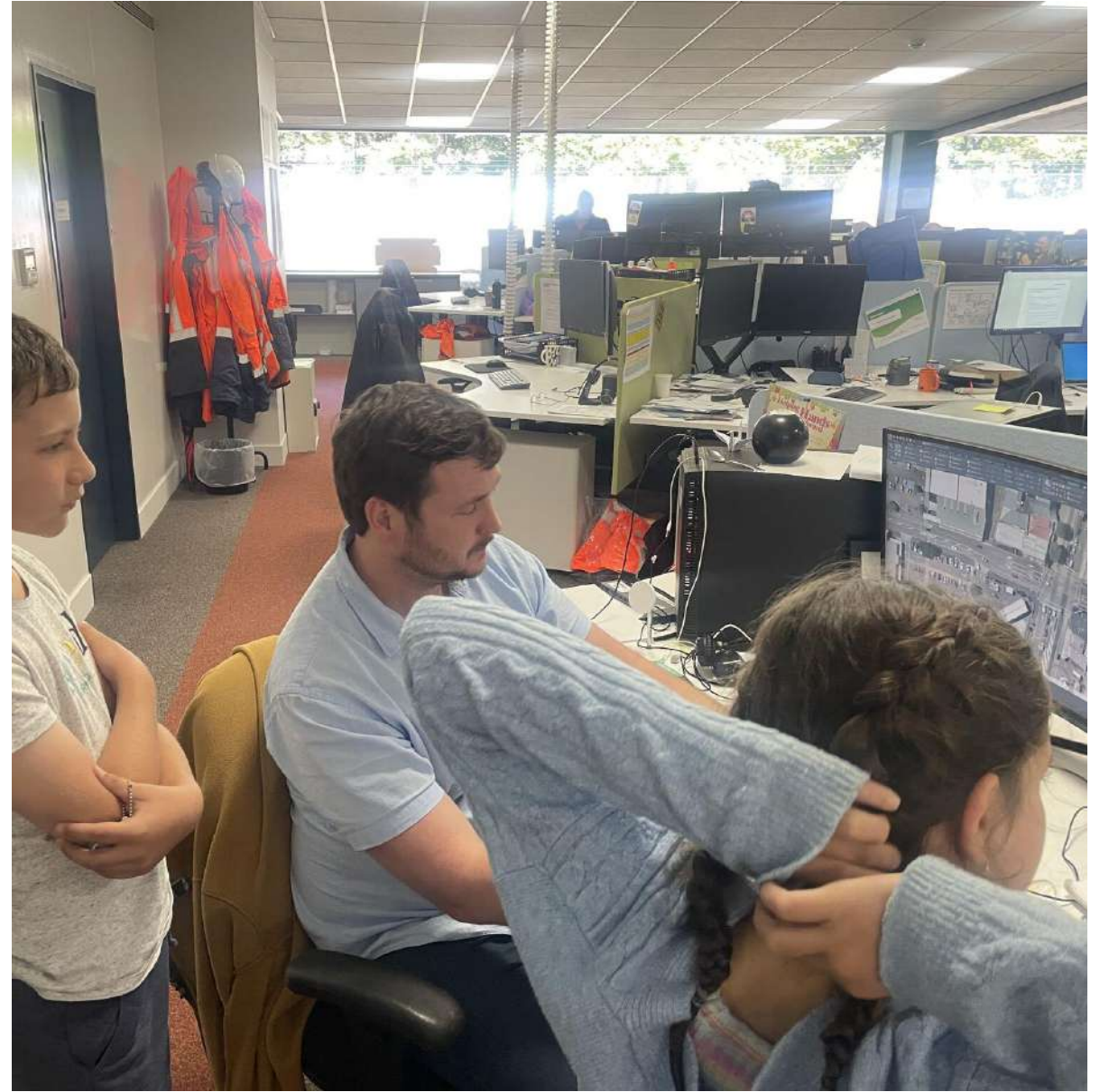
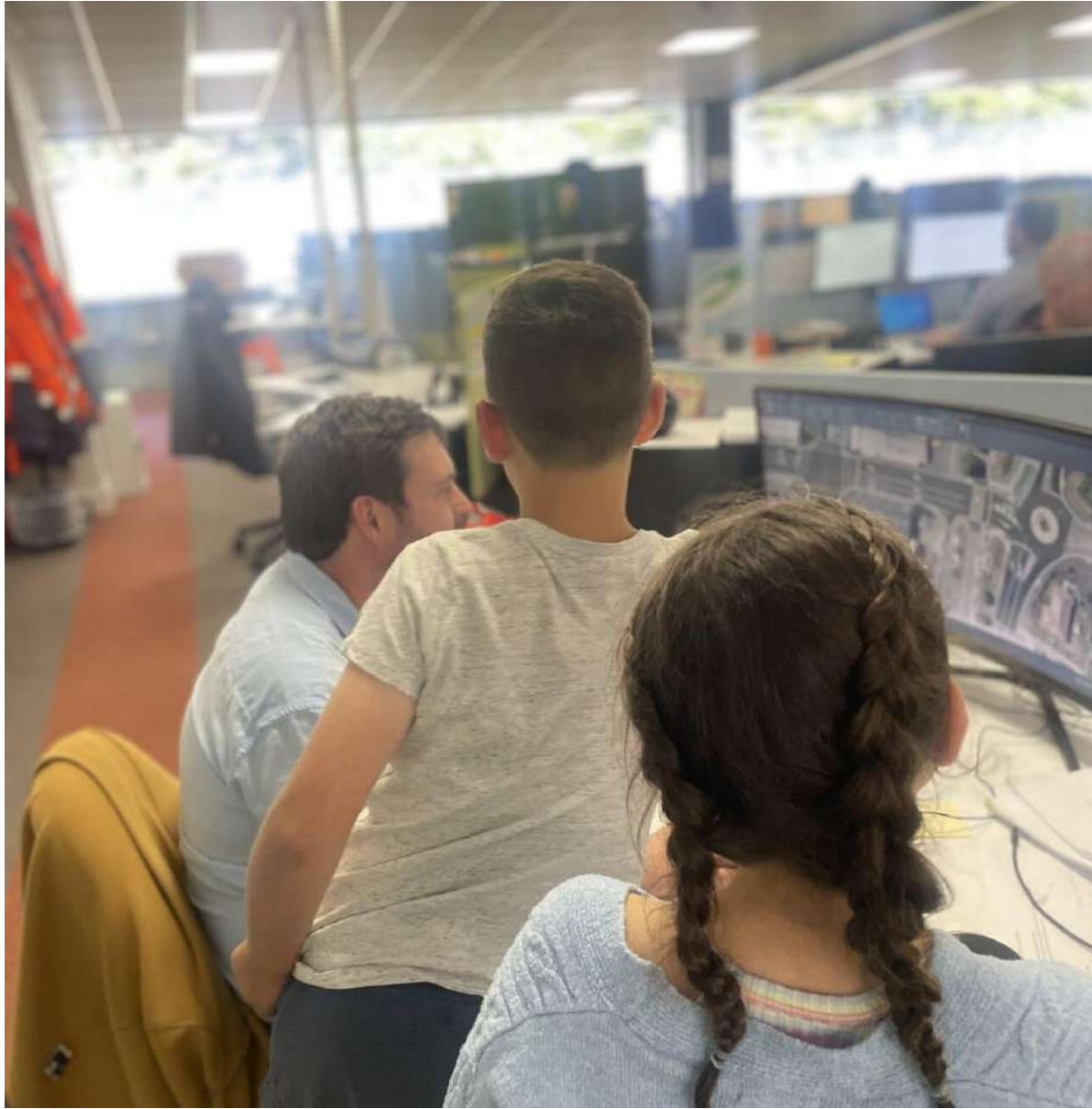
- What does good look like?
- What are the priorities that will define your term?
- What are you prepared to give up/ trade off?
- How will the community know you have succeeded?

# HOT TIP #5

Think long term –  
decisions today impact  
infrastructure for decades

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# Decision to back track on downgrading Ōtaki-Levin expressway met with joy

1:56 pm on 23 June 2025

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# HOT TIP #6

Save your political capital  
for the things that really  
matter

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**Culture**  
Confidence  
Clarity  
Cohesion

